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Thursday
January 8, 1953

EXCISE

I went to Dr. Chase's office this morning to have my teeth cleaned.

I had a PSB briefing and afterwards Messrs. Smith, Foster, Kirk and Harriman came to lunch.

I had a short talk beforehand with General Smith about the rumors that were lent authority by the New York Times of his designation to replace me in the Department. They were, as I had previously known, well founded -- he has accepted the position but does not know when it will be announced. This will assure continuity here and he will be one of the few, if not the only, person in the new Administration who has a thorough familiarity with the important foreign policies of the Government as well as with many of its administrative procedures.

Bedell and I had an affectionate personal talk about our own relationship.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY CEC DATE 7-1-81
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

I think this is a fine selection but fear for the strain on his health.

Lowell Thomas, Jr., came to see me this morning at the request of Merian Cooper. He is going to make a trip around the world with a crew to work on a cinerama project; the first such produced by Cooper has been an extraordinary success. He wanted some help from the Department and introductions to various heads of mission along his route which I believe we will be able to give him.

Foster Dulles came to my office this afternoon and held a meeting at which he told us of conversations had by General Eisenhower and himself in New York with Prime Minister Churchill.

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(4) In regard to currency stabilization and other financial matters, Churchill suggested that he might prolong his stay in Jamaica by a week and return here to Washington to preside over a high-level conference to settle these affairs. Dulles discouraged any such idea.

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Major Roy came to see me tonight in connection with a telephone call ~~[illegible]~~ I had had from Mother's old friend Eleanor Gibson in Baltimore, who wishes to have the transfer of her grandson, Private Teddy Ewing, for assignment to the Far East changed to an assignment in Europe or to the Military Intelligence School at home. Two of his uncles were killed in the last war and she dreads the prospect of the same fate for him.

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